
Educator Licensure Policy 5.502

The Background:

Tennessee State Board of Education Educator Licensure Policy 5.502 outlines general licensure requirements, including application and duration of licenses, professional development points, and endorsements.

This item revises the endorsements section by outlining the requirements for educators to add the Dance endorsement. The Dance endorsement does not have an assessment but requires an educator to hold a valid Tennessee educator license and have at least one course at the postsecondary level in dance or be recommended by a State Board-approved EPP in dance. Currently, there is only one State Board-approved EPP that can recommend a candidate for the Dance endorsement.

This item also revises the endorsements section by assigning endorsement codes for recently adopted English as a Second Language, Health and Wellness, and Physical Education endorsements in both the K-8 and 6-12 grade-band splits. Assigning endorsement codes allows the Department to process transactions for educators applying for Tennessee licensure through out-of-state reciprocity and adding endorsements by assessment only, where applicable.

The Fiscal Analysis Impact:

T.C.A. § 49-1-212 requires that the Department prepare a fiscal analysis of any policy, rule, or regulation proposed to the State Board of Education. This item has no financial impact on an LEA.

Policy Justification:

T.C.A. § 4-5-230 requires that justification for adopting an item as a policy instead of a rule be submitted to the chair of the Government Operations Committee. This item is proposed to be adopted as a policy because it defines or explains the meaning of a statute or rule and/or concerns only the internal management of state government that does not affect private rights or privileges.

Connection to the [Master Plan](#):

This item supports the State Board's strategic focus on Teachers and Leaders outlined in the Master Plan by ensuring alignment for license issuance, renewal, advancement, and reactivation across Educator and Instructional Leader License types.

The Recommendation:

The Department of Education recommends acceptance of this item on first reading. The SBE staff concurs with this recommendation.